



G-5's "Eye on AMC"

U.S. Army Materiel Command

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State-of-the-art software center dedicated to fallen Soldier

Sgt. Ryan E. Doltz was recently remembered as a hero, patriot, friend, leader, son and brother during an emotional ceremony recently at Picatinny Arsenal, N.J.

More than 300 community members, local, state and municipal officials; friends, family and fellow Soldiers joined together to dedicate Building 31 as the Sgt. Ryan E. Doltz Armament Software Engineering Center.

As the newest Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center laboratory, the recently renovated facility will house research and development efforts for advanced software products and services.

Doltz, a 26 year old New Jersey Army National Guard member, was killed in Baghdad, Iraq, June 5, 2004, when his vehicle struck a improvised explosive device while he was guarding a military convoy. Doltz was assigned to Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery.

Also killed as a result of the IED was Sgt. Humberto F. Timoteo of Newark, N.J. His brother Carlos attended the center's dedication.

Picatinny Commanding General Brig. Gen. Paul S. Izzo said that while the event was born of sadness, it also represented happiness as well as hope for the future.

"Sergeant Doltz's memory will live on each time someone gazes on the memorial plaque," Izzo said.

Robot attracts attention, interacts with NASCAR fans

After entering the Army of One interactive exhibit at NASCAR's Nextel Cup races, one meets Sgt. 1st Class Rock. At first glance, he looks like a mannequin wearing the new Army Combat Uniform. But after close inspection, he'll suddenly gesture and ask, "So, who's your favorite NASCAR driver?" For the unsuspecting, this can be quite startling to say the least, but after a quick sigh of relief, is entertaining.

Sgt. 1st Class Rock is a robot that belongs to the Operational Forces Interface Group at the Natick Soldier Center, Natick, Mass. According to Max Biela, team leader OFIG, Rock – as the team calls him – was purchased in 1990 to enhance the exhibit program by interacting with audiences. After some modifications by the audio visual team, an operator can stand anywhere from as far as 200 feet away from the robot and talk to people using multiple wireless mics.

According to Biela, in December 2003, Accessions Command personnel visited Natick looking for information and assistance in the development of a Soldier Equipment Trailer to be used at NASCAR events. Specifically, they were looking for something interactive to get the audience's attention. After reviewing a video of Sgt. 1st Class Rock, Accessions Command knew the robot was a perfect fit. Biela said Rock's first race was the Daytona 500 in February 2004 and he's been part of the Army exhibit at racing events ever since.

"The whole Army of One exhibit is interactive and the robot makes the exhibit especially unique," said Rick Manzano, an engineer with the OFIG. "You can have a real-time conversation with people that is not pre-programmed." He added that one of the first questions people have is, "how does it work?"

Did you know...

For the third year in a row, the Army Materiel Command's Small Business Program has surpassed \$1 billion in growth of contract obligations to small businesses! The program is currently at 16.8 percent (over \$6.7 billion) against a Department of Army assigned target of 15.5 percent.

